

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 058000  
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:JWHITING  
APPROVED BY AF:TWSEELYE  
AF/E:RSPOST  
AF:DBBOLEN  
S/S- FORTIZ  
S/S-FORTIZ

-----160054Z 048720 /66

O 160019Z MAR 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 058000

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ET, US

SUBJECT: PROPOSED CALL ON MENGISTU

REF: ADDIS ABABA 1529

1. DEPT. BELIEVES LETTER SEEKING APPOINTMENT WITH CHAIRMAN MENGISTU SHOULD AVOID RAISING CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES OF SECURITY OF U.S. PERSONNEL AND MEDIA REFERENCES TO CIA. THESE ISSUES SHOULD, OF COURSE, BE STRESSED IN MEETING WITH MENGISTU, BUT INCLUSION OF THEM IN LETTER MIGHT PREJUDICE A FAVORABLE RESPONSE.

2. PREPARED TEXT AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE: I SHOULD LIKE TO REITERATE MY ORAL REQUEST TO YOU  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 058000

OF MARCH 15 FOR AN OPPORTUNITY TO CALL ON THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PROVISIONAL MILITARY ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL AS SOON AS SUCH A CALL CAN BE CONVENIENTLY ARRANGED.

THE CALL WOULD IN PART BE A COURTESY CALL SINCE I HAVE NOT YET HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH HIS EXCELLENCY, BUT I ALSO WISH TO TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS WITH

HIM FRANKLY AND FULLY THE CURRENT STATE OF OUR BILATERAL  
RELATIONS AND TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER AND HOW HE FEELS THEY  
MIGHT BE IMPROVED. IN THIS CONTEXT, I WOULD LIKE TO

EXPLORE WITH HIS EXCELLENCY HOW U.S. PROGRAMS IN SUPPORT  
OF ETHIOPIA'S ECONOMIC AND MILITARY NEEDS RELATE TO THE  
CHANGES THAT ARE OCCURRING IN YOUR COUNTRY.

I LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU AT AN EARLY DATE.  
END QUOTE.

3. SUBSTANTIVE GUIDANCE FOR MENGISTU CONVERSATION  
FOLLOWS SEPTTEL.

VANCE

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, DIPLOMATIC PROTOCOL, DIPLOMATIC NOTES, PLANNING MEETINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 16-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STATE058000  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** JWHITING  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770089-0422  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:**  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770354/aaaabvns.tel  
**Line Count:** 78  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 7ce680b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN SS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** 77 ADDIS ABABA 1529  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3093174  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PROPOSED CALL ON MENGISTU  
**TAGS:** PFOR, ET, US, (MENGISTU HAILE MARIAM)  
**To:** ADDIS ABABA  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/7ce680b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009